

February Calendar 2025

<u>Events</u>		<u>Anniversary & Birthdays</u>	
Sunday	2-Feb (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service		
Monday	3-Feb		(B) Lee Schaal
Tuesday	4-Feb (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service	4-Feb	(B) Sandra Kleinik
Wednesday	5-Feb (E) 7pm Ladies' Aid Meeting	5-Feb	(B) Errol Rhodes
Thursday	6-Feb	6-Feb	(B) Paula Gephart
Saturday	8-Feb	8-Feb	(B) Evelyn Meseke
			(B) Dan Summann
Sunday	9-Feb (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service		
Tuesday	11-Feb	11-Feb	(B) Lucy Newcomb
			(B) Ryan Summann
Saturday	15-Feb	15-Feb	(B) Wesley Rogers
			(B) Ashli Fenton
Sunday	16-Feb (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service		
Saturday	22-Feb	22-Feb	(B) Jamie Tischhauser
Sunday	23-Feb (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service		
Wednesday	26-Feb	26-Feb	(B) Chris Cole
Friday	28-Feb	28-Feb	(B) John Moyer

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February 2025

Dearly Beloved of Christ,

One of my devotional readings a few weeks ago, included this quote from Martin Luther. Its setting is the plague that was rampant at the time and the importance of notifying the pastor when his services were needed.

[How to prepare for death:] First, one must admonish the people to attend church and listen to the sermon so that they learn through God's word how to live and how to die. It must be noted that those who are so uncouth and wicked as to despise God's word while they are in good health should be left unattended when they are sick unless they demonstrate their remorse and repentance with great earnestness, tears, and lamentation. . . .

Second, everyone should prepare in time and get ready for death by going to confession and taking the sacrament once every week or fortnight. He should become reconciled with his neighbor and make his will so that if the Lord knocks and he departs before a pastor or chaplain can arrive, he has provided for his soul, has left nothing undone, and has committed himself to God. When there are many fatalities and only two or three pastors on duty, it is impossible to visit everyone, to give instruction, and to teach each one what a Christian ought to know in the anguish of death. Those who have been careless and negligent in these matters must account for themselves. That is their own fault. After all, we cannot set up a private pulpit and altar daily at their bedside simply because they have despised the public pulpit and altar to which God has summoned and called them.

Third, if someone wants the chaplain or pastor to come, let the sick person send word in time to call him and let him do so early enough while he is still in his right mind before the illness overwhelms the patient. [So far Luther]

While we are, thankfully, not afflicted with the plague, I share this with you as encouragement to attend the Divine Service as often as you can, because it is the primary way of preparing to die. That, after all, is what I'm here for, to prepare you to die – in Christ – through preaching, teaching, and administering the Sacrament. This helps you to live your life in this world looking ever forward to living in the world to come. This should be the most important thing in your life. So, please call me whenever you need the comfort and strength of the Gospel.

Related to this is encouragement to speak to family members and friends who may be absent from the Divine Service, and thus neglecting God's Word and preparing to live eternally. Invite them, encourage them, and bring them with you to receive God's gifts and thus prepare to die. It's the greatest thing you can do for them.

God bless you as you prepare to die in Christ by hearing His Word, receiving His forgiveness, and then, empowered by Him and His Gospel, living a life that pleases Him.

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Landskroener

Here are the readings for the upcoming Divine Services:

February 2 Purification of Mary and
Presentation of Our Lord

1 Sam. 1:21-28
Heb. 2:14-18
Luke 2:22-32 (33-40)

February 9 Epiphany 5

Is. 6:1-8 (9-13)
1 Cor. 14:12b-20
Luke 5:1-11

February 16 Epiphany 6

Jer. 17:5-8
1 Cor. 15:(1-11) 12-20
Luke 6:17-26

February 23 Epiphany 7

Gen. 45:3-15
1 Cor. 15:21-26, 30-42
Luke 6:27-38

Augsburg Immanuel Lutheran Church

Quarterly Voters Meeting

January 19, 2025

Chairman Mo Schukar called the meeting to order and Pastor Landskroener led all present in prayer.

Minutes from the October 13, 2024 voters meeting were printed in the church newsletter. There was no further discussion on these minutes. A motion was made to accept the minutes as posted, seconded, and approved.

Members:

Voting members: Carla Newcomb

Communicant members: None

Baptisms: None.

Transfers:

Transfer out: None

Transfer in: None

Releases: None

A motion to accept the membership changes was made, seconded, and approved.

Treasurer's Report:

The 2024 annual treasurer's report was presented by treasurer, Fran Collier. A copy of the report is included with these minutes. A motion was made to accept the report as presented, seconded, and approved.

Elders' Report:

All is going well. As usual, please contact the elders if you have any questions or concerns.

Pastor's Report:

The 2024 membership and attendance numbers are attached to this report.

Trustees' Report:

Projects that have been placed on hold until warmer weather are the concrete work to the church and the parsonage. Also working on getting roof repairs done on the church.

Sunday school:

The Christmas program was enjoyed by all – both the participants and those watching. Thank you to everyone involved in making the program a success again.

Bible Class:

Bible class continues to meet every Sunday at 9:00 AM in the parish hall. As usual, everyone is invited to attend. So please come join us.

Finance Man: No report.

Sexton: No report.

Old Business:

The church officer elections were completed at the last quarterly meeting.

The October Voters' Meeting has been moved from 7PM to be held right after church.

New Business:

Special Collections:

The following special collections were submitted for the first quarter:

- Ash Wednesday – Fort Wayne Seminary
- 2nd Lenten – AbleLight (formerly Bethesda)
- 3rd Lenten – St. Louis Seminary
- 4th Lenten – Lighthouse Pregnancy Center
- 5th Lenten – Lutheran School for the Deaf, Jacksonville
- 6th Lenten – District Deaf Ministry
- Maundy Thursday – Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School

Note: Easter is actually on April 20th this year and some of these collections will take place in the second quarter.

A motion was made to accept the special collections, seconded, and approved.

District Convention is also coming up on July 13th through the 15th at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield, Illinois. Kathy Landskroener will serve as lay delegate for the church. Pastor Michael Moore was nominated as our delegate for district president. A motion was made, seconded, and approved.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and approved. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Steven R. Hickerson

Pastor's Annual Report for January, 2025

Received: None

Transfer out:

October 14 Brian Brown to Friendship Lutheran Church of Joy, Champaign, IL
October 14 Mallory Koch & Lydia Collier to Salem Lutheran Church, Salem, IL

Release/Remove:

October 14 Joseph D. Bauer - member at St. John's Lutheran Church, Taylor, MI

Baptisms:

August 18 - Wrenlee Mae Roberts

Funerals:

February 11 - Nita Schukar
March 16 - Beatrice Cearlock
May 21 - Dennis Meseke (Died May 16)
July 6 - Anita Meadows
October 25 - Bradley Grandt (died October 19)

We held 52 regular Worship Services

Avg attendance 54

Avg communed 46

14 evening services

Avg attendance 31

4 evening services offered communion

Avg communed 24

Immanuel Lutheran Church - Shobonier, IL
Annual Financial Report Jan. 1, 2024 - Dec. 31, 2024

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Balance on Hand - Jan. 1, 2024			\$ 64,163.76
<u>Received from</u>			
Envelopes	\$ 123,751.00		
Loose	\$ 5,789.30		
Church Memorials	\$ 1,452.50		
Interest	\$ 60.86		
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 15,709.58		
Total Received	\$ 146,763.24		
<u>Disbursements</u>			
Pastor's Salary & Housing		\$ 57,620.95	
Pastor's Concordia Plan		\$ 26,953.81	
Pastor's Tax Assistance		\$ 1,719.58	
Pastor's Mileage Reimbursement		\$ 4,618.02	
Guest Speaker		\$ 200.00	
Pastor's Meetings & Lodging		\$ 427.72	
Continuing Educatuion (Pastor)		\$ 100.00	
Vacancy / Guest Mileage		\$ 120.60	
Parsonage Utilities		\$ 3,062.30	
Church Maintenance		\$ 2,905.59	
Custodian Salary		\$ 9,000.00	
Church Utilities		\$ 8,993.98	
Church Insurance		\$ 19,992.26	
Church Supplies		\$ 2,110.24	
Groundskeeper Salary		\$ 5,762.50	
Organist Salary		\$ 3,200.00	
Office Supplies		\$ 4,702.49	
Secretary Salary		\$ 2,400.00	
Social Security Church Payment		\$ 1,568.15	
PayChex		\$ 1,412.90	
Lutheran Witness		\$ 717.12	
Portals of Prayer		\$ 475.60	
Sunday School Supplies		\$ 322.70	
Organist Mileage		\$ 134.00	
Total Disbursed		\$ 158,520.51	
Balance on Hand - Dec. 31, 2024			\$ 52,406.49

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>Cemetery Fund</u>			
Balance on Hand - Jan. 1, 2024			\$ 18,334.93
Received for Fund	\$ 2,662.50		
Disbursed from Fund		\$ -	
Balance on Hand - Dec. 31, 2024			\$ 20,997.43
<u>Building Fund</u>			
Balance on Hand - Jan. 1, 2024			\$ 4,988.01
Received for Fund	\$ -		
Expenses		\$ -	
Balance on Hand - Dec. 31, 2024			\$ 4,988.01
<u>Mission Work</u>			
Received From Envelopes (Synod)	\$ 10,242.00		
Received as Loose	\$ 650.00		
Total Missions Received	\$ 10,892.00		
Total Disbursed to Synod		\$ 10,374.00	
Special Envelopes Missions	\$ 933.00		
Holiday Service Missions	\$ 1,516.20		
Total Received Special Missions	\$ 2,449.20		
Total Missions Disbursed		\$ 1,963.20	
<u>Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Funds Received</u>			
Choice Dollars	\$ 799.00		
Balance on Hand (All Funds) - Jan. 1, 2024			\$ 64,163.76
Received All Funds	\$ 163,565.94		
Disbursed All Funds		\$ (170,857.71)	
Balance on Hand (All Funds) - Dec. 31, 2024			\$ 56,871.99
Special Account - Property Maintenance			
Balance on Hand - Jan 1, 2024			\$ 45,795.92
Interest			\$ 44.76
Amount Dispersed			\$ (2,469.63)
Balance on hand - December 31, 2024			\$ 43,371.05

Sausage and Pancake Supper ~ The St. Paul Lutheran (Blue Point) Men's Club invites you all to their Annual Sausage and Pancake Supper on Sunday, February 2nd beginning at 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm. The supper is dine-in with carry-outs available, a freewill offering will be accepted. Packaged rope, cooked rope, and bulk ground sausage will be available for sale.

Sausage Supper St. Peter's Lutheran Men's Club will once again be holding their Sausage Supper on February 16, 2025, with serving beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the St. Peter's Lutheran School Gym. Carry Outs will be available. Pre-orders for sausage and ribs will once again be offered and encouraged ahead of time, with deadline to order being January 31st, 2025 (sausage will be available in 1 pound packages this year). The LWML will also be having a Country Store at the Sausage Supper!

A limited amount of sausage will be available on the day of the supper – order early! To order, please call one of the following:

John Lotz 618-553-5585, Tim Brauer 618-267-6228

David Schaal 618-292-3732, Reggie Grandt 618-553-6213

Valentine Spaghetti Supper @ Bethlehem Altamont: Sunday Feb. 16th, 4-8pm Bethlehem, Altamont is hosting a Valentine's Supper or date night. All welcome. Salad, spaghetti, garlic bread, cheese cake. Free will proceeds go to Bethlehem youth group. RSVP by text: (618) 554-6502 or call (618) 483-6756 with your name, # of attendees, and hour time slot (4-5, 5-6, 6-7, 7-8).

EASTERN ORTHODOXY SERIES... How is Confessional Lutheranism similar and different to Eastern Orthodoxy? Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, is doing a series on Eastern Orthodoxy with LCMS Pastor Joshua Schooping. Pastor Schooping is a former Eastern Orthodox priest. You can listen to this series on-demand at issuesetc.org/easternorthodoxy.

The current Dollar for Missions project is \$25,000 for masonry work and repointing at University Lutheran Church in Champaign. The church and student center building serves as an outpost of the Gospel to the 60,000 students annually at the University of Illinois. Portions of the brick and concrete structure are showing their age and are in need of repair. This project will fund targeted work at repairing and repointing sections of the building exterior, so that the Lord's Word and Sacraments can continue to be given out for many decades to come!

Contact information updates – I have started receiving replies that some numbers I text a message to, did not deliver. If your number has changed please let Scott know. I am going to stop sending notifications to the numbers unable to deliver. If you don't receive messages and would like to, please let Scott know. With winter around the corner, it is an easy way to get messages to a lot of members in a timely manner.

Contact Pastor Landskroener 330-204-4180 or email lawandgospel@hotmail.com for a Pastoral visit.

Prayer Request – When prayers are requested, we ask that we are informed of the relationship of the person with our congregation. There has been concerns about names on prayer list & who they are. We will add the relationship to the prayers. This will allow members to ask about the individual's progress in recovery. In an effort to manage the list more effectively, individuals will be placed on the list for a period of four weeks. If at the end of that time, those people still need additional prayers, they may be re-added to the list for another four-week term. This may be done as long as the individual continues to need the added strength of the church prayer for their special need.

Please Sign attendance books in the pew, so Pastor is better able to serve you.

Bible Word Search:
TRUST IN THE LORD
(PROVERBS 3:5-6 NIV)

U W V K I X M O Q S P P S C W
C N A T P P B R T Q J R R L R
Q A D Y R X H R B J I O T Y X
G P Y E S A A L I T U G C E J
I T O D R I E J A V J I L A D
C J R P G S Y H A S O K V C Z
X O C H V C T K Y F I B L K Q
L J T D Y E A A U I D X S N X
T S U R T S S O N A P G N O N
E J Z F C H N W J D P F C W L
L E A N L T P K Z N I Q X L F
E B S W C A Q C M X I N S E Q
Y Z U Q K P T G H Q L F G D J
S R O Q H G F R P F U T Y G O
T Z D T L Q H Z O W C G X E O

ACKNOWLEDGE
LORD
TRUST

HEART
PATHS
UNDERSTANDING

LEAN
STRAIGHT
WAYS

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV) "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding: in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

Instructions:

Find and circle the words from the list. Words may be forward, backward, vertical, or diagonal within the puzzle.